

LIBRARY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE, FEBRUARY 6, 1879, AS
AMENDED MARCH 11, 1879.

THE committee appointed at the stated meeting of December 5th, 1878, to prepare rules of business, and to define the duties of the several committees, and who, at the stated meeting of January 2, 1879, were, in addition to those duties, instructed to report what standing committees should be established, continued, or abolished,

REPORTS AS FOLLOWS:—

The “standing committees,” which are appointed at the first meeting of the directors held after the annual meeting of the members in the month of May, are now eight in number, viz. :—

1. A committee of five, on correspondence, and the purchase of English and American books.
2. A committee of two, to arrange terms with those who may have lost or defaced books.
3. A committee of four, on repairs and improvements.
4. A committee of four, to label books, direct the binding, and replace defaced books.
5. A committee of five, to purchase French, Spanish, German, and Italian books.
6. A committee of three, on finance.
7. A committee of three, on fire proof building.
8. A committee of three, on the Ridgway branch.

To define the duties of these several committees, it became necessary to go back to their creation, and it was found that some of what are now “standing committees,” were either appointed for temporary purposes, or to meet wants which have since then been more or less changed.

Before the year 1790, there were no standing committees. From time to time, certain of the directors were authorized, as a committee,





On the 8th of May, 1800 (4 Minutes, 118), when three of the directors were appointed as the "labelling committee," it was added "who are also to direct the binding of books, and the sale of such as are worn

out, defaced, or useless to the institution;" and from that time this committee was regularly appointed as "the committee to label books, direct the binding of them, and replace defaced books."

On the 6th of May, 1802 (4 Minutes, 147), three directors were appointed "a committee of correspondence, and for purchasing American and other publications here," thus blending together two of the former standing committees.

On the 20th of May, 1832 (6 Minutes, 20), among a series of resolutions were two: "that a committee be appointed with power to procure such English and American works as they shall think proper, which are not now upon the shelves," and also "that a committee be appointed to compare the catalogues of this and the Loganian Library, and to report to the board such works in French, Spanish and Italian literature, as in their opinion it will be proper to procure."

The standing committee to purchase new English and American books was charged with the execution of the first of these resolutions, and a committee of three was appointed on the second resolution.

These committees were thereafter annually continued under the names of "the committee on the first resolution," and "the committee on the second resolution," until

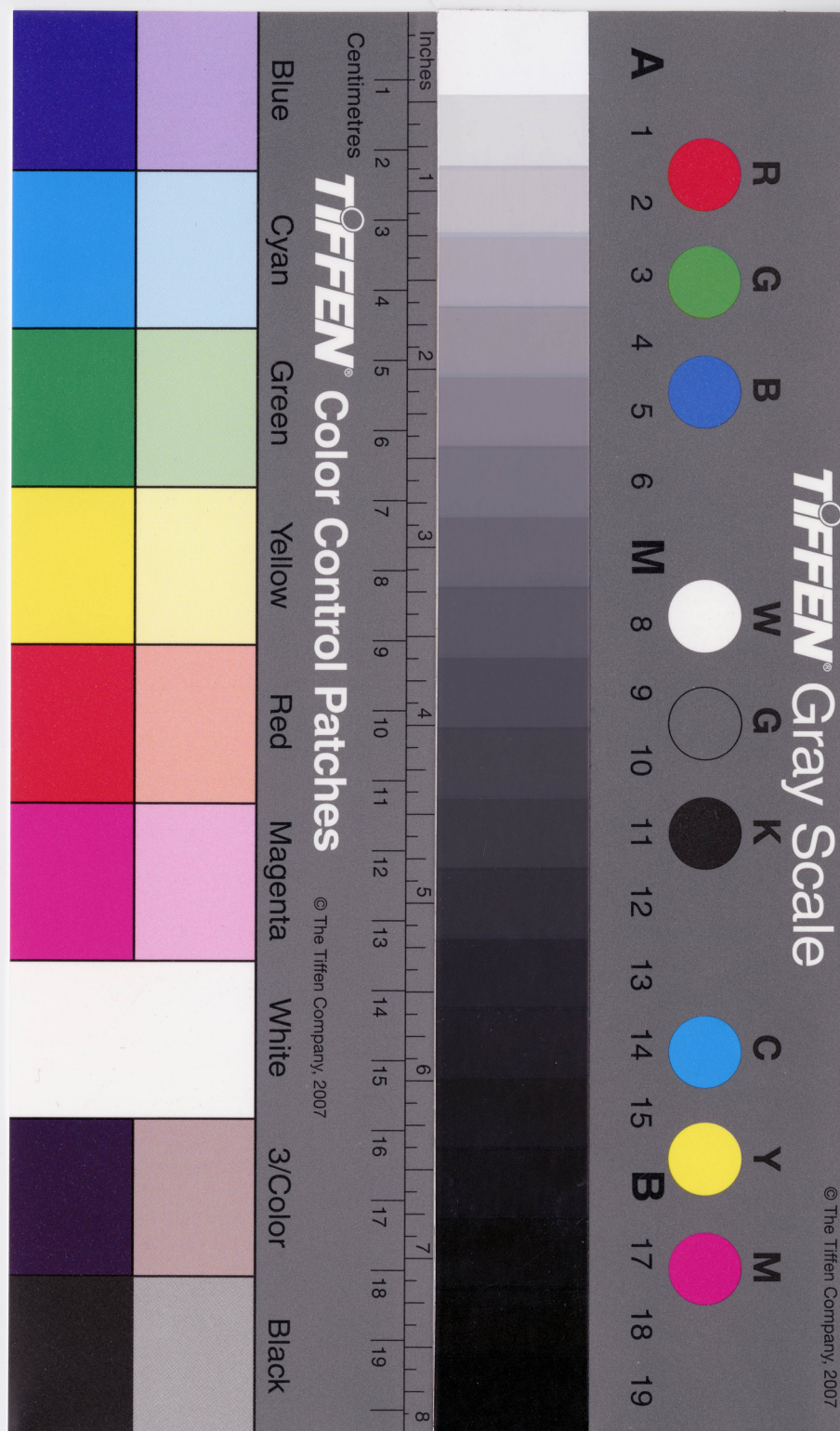
May 5th, 1836 (6 Minutes, 97), when three directors (the same as before) were appointed "a committee on French, Italian and Spanish books," and this has been since regularly continued.

After a resolution had been passed providing for the repayment of a temporary loan made by two of the directors:—

On the 4th of August, 1836 (6 Minutes, 105), a committee of finance, composed of three directors, was appointed, with authority to borrow, on the credit of the company, such sums of money as might be necessary, and upon such terms as they might find expedient, and give an instrument securing the repayment of the same with interest under the seal of the company.

From that time, this committee was regularly appointed every year by the name of "the committee on finance."

On the 24th April, 1869 (7 Minutes, 311), three directors were appointed a committee to make inquiry in regard to the purchase of a





4. A committee on the Ridgway branch, to consist of three members, to be appointed by the board, and also of the members of the monthly executive committee for the time being. Its duty shall be the special supervision of the Ridgway branch, and the trusts connected therewith.

A committee on fire-proof building, though very necessary at the present time, is recommended as a temporary, and not as a standing committee.'

This arrangement will :—

1. Reduce the present eight standing committees to four, viz. :—
 1. A committee on finance,
 2. A book committee,
 3. An executive committee, and
 4. A committee on the Ridgway branch, with a temporary committee on fire-proof building.

2. The four committees now existing, viz. :—

On correspondence, and the purchase of English and American books,

To arrange terms with those who may have lost or defaced books,

To label books, direct the binding, and replace defaced books, and

To purchase French, Spanish, German, and Italian books, can, we think, have their duties better performed by a single book committee; and the duties of the committee on repairs and improvements can, among other obvious duties, be properly discharged by the executive committee.

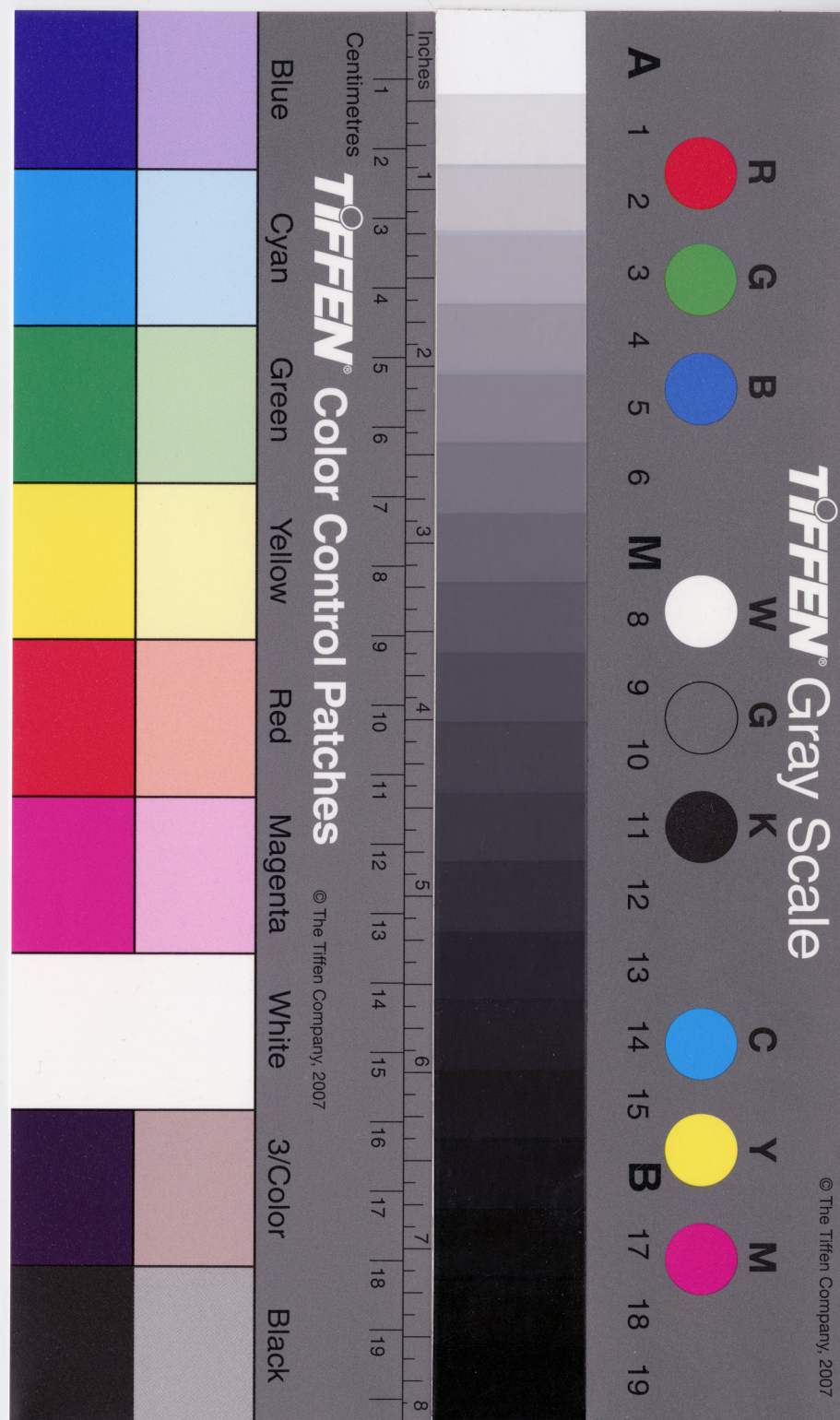
3. On this executive committee, each member of the board will, in every year, serve once, and will thus acquire a detailed knowledge of the management of the libraries; at the same time his term will always begin with a colleague who has already served for one month.

With respect to the rules of order and of business, the committee recommend the following :—

I. At all meetings of the directors, the oldest member by standing shall preside.

II. The order of business shall be :—

1. The call of the roll.
2. The reading of the minutes.
3. Reports of librarian, treasurer, and other officers.
4. Reports of committees in the following order :—



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- The executive committee.
 - The committee on finance.
 - The book committee.
 - The committee on Ridgway branch.
 - Special committees.
5. General business.

III. All motions shall be in writing, and all action shall be by *viva voce* vote, or by ballot if requested by any director.

And, finally, the committee recommends that the members of the company shall, at their stated annual meeting, appoint a committee of not less than three persons, not members of the board, to audit the accounts of the three libraries, and certify as to their accuracy.

It remains to notice the Loganian Library, its committees, and order of business.

This library is thus held: James Logan, who owned the building in Sixth Street near Walnut, which contained his private library, by deed dated March 8, 1745, conveyed it and some ground rents to William Logan and others, in trust for the use of the public. This deed, by virtue of a power which he therein reserved to that effect, he cancelled, and afterwards died, without having executed another which he had prepared. His will, however, dated March 25, 1749, recognized the intention of the trust, and his children, William and James Logan, and Hannah Smith, carried into effect this intention, by deed of 25th of March, 1760, by which the building, books, etc., were conveyed to Israel Pemberton and others, in trust for the purposes of a public library, and it was therein provided that certain of the descendants of James Logan should always be among the trustees.

By an act of the legislature of March 31, 1792, the property was vested in the Library Company of Philadelphia, in trust for the support and increase of the Loganian Library; and it was provided that the directors of the company, together with James Logan (the then surviving trustee, at whose request the act was framed) and two such other trustees as he should appoint, should be the trustees

of the Loganian Library. There was also a provision that the books of the Library should always be kept apart, and another for the appointment, as future trustees, of certain heirs male of the founder.

The result is that the legal title to the property is in the Library Company of Philadelphia, "in trust for the support and increase of the Loganian library," and that the directors of the Library Company, an heir male of James Logan, and two other persons appointed by him, are the trustees of the Loganian Library.

The books, the accounts, and the minutes of the Loganian Library are kept apart. The meetings of the trustees are quarterly, in February, May, August and November.

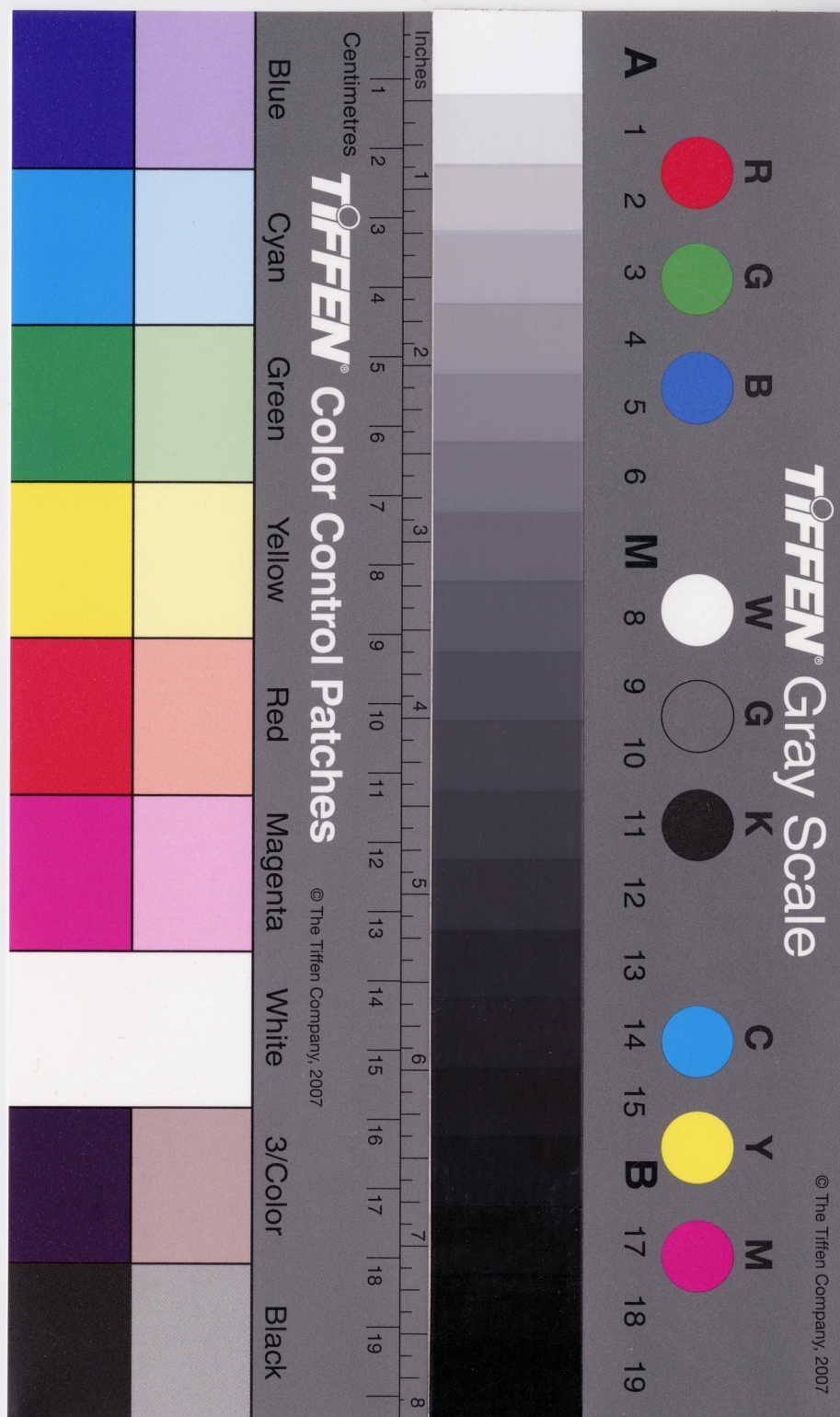
At the November meeting of the trustees, and at the December meeting of the directors, a committee is annually appointed to examine the accounts between the two Libraries; and at the February meeting of the trustees, a committee is annually appointed to examine the accounts of the treasurer. These committees report at the next meeting of the trustees, and cannot, therefore, be, in one sense, considered as standing committees.

This committee sees no reason to recommend any change as to this.

It is believed that the foregoing embraces all the duties imposed upon the committee.

HENRY WHARTON,
JAMES S. BIDDLE,
WM. HENRY RAWLE,
Committee.

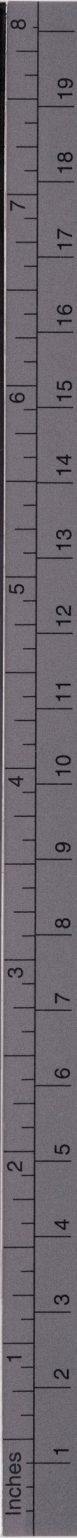
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